Subject: Collection of 445 war medals + decorations

Watts, A.O.

[133 E 16th St.]

1920-1921

December 14th, 1920.

Mr. A. O. Watts,
Phoenix Engraving Company,
133 East 16th Street,
New York.

My dear Mr. Watts:-

My count of the German and other decorations deposited with the Museum of The American Numismatic Society shows that there are a total of four hundred and forty-five (445) pieces in the collection. This count has been made very carefully and checked several times, and I feel certain of its accuracy.

After having counted the pieces I selected from the whole collection one specimen of each type of decoration represented, and laid this group aside intending to count it. Before doing so however, Mr. Wood had occasion to look the collection over, and returned some half dozen pieces from this selection to the main collection. One hundred and sixty (160) pieces however still remain, and the total number of types represented must be approximately between one hundred and sixty (160) and one hundred and seventy (170), about ten (10) having no duplicates. The rest are all duplicated sometimes eight or ten times. This duplication seriously militates against the selling value of the collection as a whole, and would make it almost impossible to get even the reasonable market price except by splitting the collection up, and selling sections of it to different collectors.

I trust this letter will give you the information you desire, and you may consider it as a receipt from the Society for the four hundred and forty-five (445) pieces.

Very truly yours,

Assistant to Curator.

October 11th, 1921

Mr. A. O. Watts
Phoenix Engraving Company
133 East 16th Street
New York City

My dear Mr. Watts:

Our good friend has decided to take the Collection, and I am herewith sending you a cheque for Twelve Hundred Dollars, the price agreed upon.

I suppose you feel very glad to get these Decorations off your hands, and our problem now is to get rid of the duplicates. Do you know anyone who would take some of these? Also, would you mind letting me know the names and addresses of the concerns in Germany from whom you got these as we wish to write to them for certain ribbons which are lacking.

Your dress suit-case is ready for you any time that you want it.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E
Enc.